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color and the words without sound; they have not the characteristic of exteriority, they lack reality, they are merely symbolic of the dominating idea. Even when these patients exert the stronger will power to keep away from these obsessions, yet frequently by the association of ideas, it is brought irresistibly back to them.

These obsessed patients show other phenomena, for, without any determinant idea, they are forced to think in an exaggerated manner, their head "works" in spite of them, they feel compelled to accomplish useless movements and have violent, irresistible emotions. These ideas may exist without any obsessions and they then constitute a group of symptoms more simple than the obsessions. This group is called the forced agitations, which are divided into the mental agitations, relating to interrogation, hesitation, deliberation, precision, symbolism, calculation, research, perfection, infinity, compensation, day dreams and feelings relative to time, such as the past and future. The motor agitations are the tics and the emotional agitations which comprise the states of anxiety, the phobias and alalias. The tics are the *diffuse* motor agitations, the phobias and alalias belong to the same group, but are more systematized. All the phobias have a disagreeable character, a certain vague, yet deeply rooted fear, while the alalias, on the contrary, actually give a suffering of somatic pain in the performance of certain daily acts. Both of these have fundamental and common characteristics, they are developed as the result of sensations excited in certain parts of the body; probably in a region already hyperæsthetic. The states of anxiety are studied both from the standpoint of psychological analysis and the accompanying physiological phenomena, such as cardiac disorders, disorders of the respiration and intestinal tract, vertigo, various paræsthesias, nocturnal terrors and profuse perspiration. The crises of these forced agitations always begin at the occasion of a voluntary act, and with these are associated profound disorders of attention and varying emotional states. Conscience always remains clear during the crisis, but there is an irresistibility to the agitations and a feeling of satisfaction in their accomplishment. If there should arise a feeling of resistance, there always accompanies this more or less acute mental or physical pain until the act is accomplished.

The stigmata of these psychasthenic states are next studied and given minute analysis. These diverse stigmata are the sense of incompleteness in the motor, intellectual and perceptual fields, the symptoms of the narrowing of the field of consciousness as in hysteria, namely the anæsthesias, subconscious movements and the hypnotic sleep and finally the disorders of the will, intelligence and emotions. Certain abnormal physiological conditions invariably seem to accompany these phenomena, such as has already been mentioned under the states of anxiety. These multiple phenomena are, according to the author, the result of the "lowering of the psychological tension," just as hysteria was to him "a narrowing of the field of consciousness." In the evolution of the disease processes there are many factors as in all so-called functional disturbances, such as heredity, age, sex and certain physical states and normal conditions. The onset of the disease may also be variable on account of the protean symptomatology, while the course may be either acute, chronic, intermittent or in episodes. The treatment is both suggestive and medicinal and is directed to tonic and sedative medication, waking suggestion, re-education and "relief of the psychological tension."

*Les Lois Morbides De L'Association Des Idées*, Par M. PELLETIER, Paris, 1904, Jules Roussel.

The first chapter of this book deals in detail with the laws of the

association of ideas in normal states and the author adopts as a working basis the subdivision of resemblance, contiguity, contrast and repetition. The symptoms of mania as then discussed, both as a phase of manic-depressive insanity and as a syndrome in other mental states, such as general paralysis and in certain cases of dementia præcox. Then follows a discussion of the incoherence and flight of ideas in mania. The fifth chapter is devoted to an analysis of the manic phase of eight cases of manic-depressive insanity, according to the conversational method, in order to clearly demonstrate the flight of ideas and the disturbances of association. It appears to us, that for this latter purpose, the test tables of Sommer would be preferable. These disturbances are studied according to a subdivision of sound, contrast, contiguity (either clear or vague), resemblance and repetition. The latter part of the book is devoted to an exposition of the association of ideas in the mentally weak, with experiments on the reaction time. The laws of the association of ideas do not vary in that they are fundamental. Whatever be the mode of psychic activity, the laws of resemblance, of contrast, of contiguity and of systematic association are always at the base. In mental disturbances, and notably in mania and states of mental weakness, the laws are absolutely the same as in normal conditions and act in the same manner. The loss of the higher faculties, the reduction and enfeeblement of attention, the plethora of ideas, are not alone able to explain these symptoms of mania. Both mania and states of mental weakness are the consequence of a very great enfeeblement of the psychic processes. The enfeeblement is not supreme, the thinking processes are the same as in normal states, only they are more defective. Psychological analysis shows that this enfeeblement is in the state of consciousness itself, and a simple difference of force modifies the course of the state of consciousness, in such a way that the result is either a cohesion of language or the extreme incoherence of mania.

*Recherches sur la Structure de la Partie Fibrillaire de Cellules Nerveuses a L'État Normal et Pathologique.* Par G. MARINESCO. *Revue Neurologique*, 15 Mar., 1904.

This paper is an exhaustive study of the neuro-fibrillar structure of nerve cells, as revealed by the new method of Ramon y Cajal, namely, treatment of the tissue with silver nitrate and reduction with pyrogalllic acid or hydroquinon. There are twenty-five illustrations, which show in an excellent manner, the distribution of the neuro-fibrils within the cell body, in both normal and pathological states. After treatment by the method detailed, the motor cells of the cord are of a brownish-red color with a bunching together of the fibrils into a net-work which takes the same color. This net-work is best seen and is most complete in the cords of newly born rabbits. In the base of the cone of origin the neuro-fibrils diverge and spread out in a fan-like manner; they then come together and form filaments which lose their fibrillary appearance. In the motor cells, the net-work of neuro-fibrils is more dense than in the cells of the nuclei of the motor cranial nerves, but even these latter do not present uniformly the same structure. In other cells the fibrils form a dense network around the nucleus. The direction and disposition of the fibrils follow the form and volume of the cell, but in fusiform, oblong and triangular cells, the fibrils traverse the cells without forming a network. The individual neuro-fibrils have not the same uniform dimensions, and in the triangular and oblong cells they have a fasciculated or striated appearance. Marinesco distinguishes two classes of network; the superficial or perisomatic, and the deep or peri-nuclear, and these latter